

Colonel Steve Maranian

Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Africa



Colonel Steve Maranian was born and raised near Boston, Massachusetts, and is a 1988 graduate of Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, from which he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a regular army commission as a Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery. Following branch training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and language training at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California he was assigned to the Southern European Task Force (SETAF) as a Platoon Leader at the 19th United States Army Field Artillery Detachment in Greece.

Colonel Maranian was reassigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in 1991 where he served as a cannon platoon leader, and staff officer in 1-39 Field Artillery (Airborne).

After promotion to Captain, Colonel Maranian was assigned to 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. There he commanded a battery of Paladin howitzers in 2-82 Field Artillery, which he led on a short-notice deployment to Kuwait in support of Operation Desert Strike. He later commanded the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery of 1st Cavalry Division Artillery.

Following promotion to Major, Colonel Maranian attended the Command and General Staff Officer's Course at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, simultaneously earning a Master of Arts degree in Human Resources Development from Webster University. He returned to SETAF in 2000, assigned to the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Vicenza, Italy, where he served as the brigade fire support officer and chief of exercises leading partnership efforts between the "Sky Soldiers" and units from Morocco and Tunisia during two training deployments to the African continent.

Moving to Germany, he was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division where he served as Executive Officer for 1-6 Field Artillery and for the 1st Infantry Division Artillery. Colonel Maranian deployed to Iraq with the 1st Infantry Division as the division's Deputy Operations Officer (DG3) during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon redeployment to Germany, and promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel Maranian assumed duty as Special Assistant to the Commanding General of United States Army Europe in Heidelberg. In 2006, he returned to SETAF and the 173rd Airborne Brigade, where he assumed command of the recently activated 4-319 Airborne Field Artillery Regiment. During this command, Colonel Maranian led the 'King of the Herd' battalion through a 15-month deployment to Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Following command, Colonel Maranian was assigned to the Pentagon where he served as the Executive Officer for the Army's Director of Training. After promotion to Colonel in 2010, he returned to Germany and assumed command of the 19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment at Ramstein Air Base. While in command, the 19th provided direct support to US Army Africa and 17th Air Force (AFAFRICA) during Operation Odyssey Dawn (Libya).

In 2012 Colonel Maranian was assigned to Carlisle Barracks where he served as the President of the Army War College resident class of 2013, graduating with a Master of Strategic Studies degree. He was then reassigned to United States Army Europe where he served as Executive Officer to the Commanding General. Assigned to Rome in 2014, he became the first Chief of Staff of the Army Senior Fellow in residence at the NATO Defense College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (2), Bronze Star Medal (2), the Meritorious Service Medal (5), the Army Commendation Medal (7), the Air Force Commendation Medal (2), the Army Achievement Medal (5), the NATO Meritorious Service Medal, various unit awards, expeditionary medals, and service medals, the Combat Action Badge, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Army Staff Identification Badge, and the Canadian Parachutist Badge. Colonel Maranian has been married to Cynthia Hall Maranian of Stedman, North Carolina since 1993.